

IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An optical disk from which recorded data are read out by means of light irradiation, comprising:

a substrate comprising recording pits as data on a surface thereof; and stacked films formed on the substrate, the films comprising a super-resolution film containing a polymer matrix and semiconductor particles including each consisting of a semiconductor particle and an organic group covalently bonded thereto, and a reflective film reflecting light, the super-resolution film and the reflective film being provided in this order from a light incident side,

wherein the organic group covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle is semiconductor particles are directly in contact with the polymer matrix and wherein even in the case where a part of polymer molecules in the polymer matrix is covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle, a ratio of the polymer molecules bonded to the semiconductor particle is 1 mol % or less of the entire polymer molecules in the polymer matrix.

2. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein the semiconductor particle comprises at least one semiconductor material selected from the group consisting of CdS, CdSe, CdS_xSe_{1-x}, ZnSe, ZnS, ZnS_xSe_{1-x}, Cd_xZn_{1-x} S, Cd_xZn_{1-x} Se, GaN, Ga_xIn_{1-x} N, ZnO, CuCl, HgI₂ and PbI₂, where 0<x<1.

3. (Previously presented) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein a halogen content of the organic group is 1 mol % or less.

4. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein the organic group is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, a residual moiety of a silane compound, a residual moiety of a thiol compound and a residual moiety of a dendrimer.

5. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein the polymer matrix comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polymethyl

methacrylate, polystyrene, polycarbonate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacetal, polyacrylate and a dendrimer.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein the semiconductor particles provide particle size distribution that a full width at half maximum is not larger than a modal diameter.

8. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 7, wherein the modal diameter in the particle size distribution of the semiconductor particles is not smaller than 1/4 and not larger than one times as large as a Bohr radius of an exciton of the semiconductor.

9. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1, wherein the semiconductor particles show exciton emission, and an energy relaxation time of the exciton is not less than 50 psec.

10. (Currently amended) An optical disk to which data are recorded by means of light irradiation, comprising:

a substrate; and

stacked films formed on the substrate, the films comprising a super-resolution film containing a polymer matrix and ~~semiconductor~~ particles including each consisting of a semiconductor particle and an organic group covalently bonded thereto, an optical recording layer to which data are recorded, and a reflective film reflecting light, the super-resolution film, the optical recording layer and the reflective film being provided in this order from a light incident side,

wherein the organic group covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle is ~~semiconductor particles are~~ directly in contact with the polymer matrix and wherein even in the case where a part of polymer molecules in the polymer matrix is covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle, a ratio of the polymer molecules bonded to the semiconductor particle is 1 mol % or less of the entire polymer molecules in the polymer matrix.

11. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein the semiconductor particle

comprises at least one semiconductor material selected from the group consisting of CdS, CdSe, Cd_xSe_{1-x}, ZnSe, ZnS, ZnS_xSe_{1-x}, Cd_xZn_{1-x}S, Cd_xZn_{1-x}Se, GaN, Ga_xIn_{1-x}N, ZnO, CuCl, HgI₂ and PbI₂, where 0<x<1.

12. (Previously presented) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein a halogen content of the organic group is 1 mol % or less.

13. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein the organic group is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, a residual moiety of a silane compound, a residual moiety of a thiol compound and a residual moiety of a dendrimer.

14. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein the polymer matrix comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polymethyl methacrylate, polystyrene, polycarbonate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacetal, polyacrylate and a dendrimer.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein the semiconductor particles provide particle size distribution that a full width at half maximum is not larger than a modal diameter.

17. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 16, wherein the modal diameter in the particle size distribution of the semiconductor particles is not smaller than 1/4 and not larger than one times as large as a Bohr radius of an exciton of the semiconductor.

18. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 10, wherein the semiconductor particles show exciton emission, and an energy relaxation time of the exciton is not less than 50 psec.

19. (Currently amended) An optical disk from which recorded data are read out by means of light irradiation, comprising:

a substrate comprising recording pits as data on a surface thereof; and stacked films formed on the substrate, the films comprising a super-resolution film containing a polymer matrix and semiconductor particles including each consisting of a semiconductor particle and an organic group covalently bonded thereto, and a reflective film reflecting light, the super-resolution film and the reflective film are provided in this order from a light incident side, and a modal diameter in particle size distribution of the semiconductor particles being not smaller than 1/4 and not larger than one times as large as a Bohr radius of an exciton of the semiconductor,

wherein the organic group covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle is semiconductor particles are directly in contact with the polymer matrix and wherein even in the case where a part of polymer molecules in the polymer matrix is covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle, a ratio of the polymer molecules bonded to the semiconductor particle is 1 mol % or less of the entire polymer molecules in the polymer matrix.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 19, wherein the semiconductor particle comprises at least one semiconductor material selected from the group consisting of CdS, CdSe, Cd_xSe_{1-x}, ZnSe, ZnS, ZnS_xSe_{1-x}, Cd_xZn_{1-x} S, Cd_xZn_{1-x} Se, GaN, Ga_xIn_{1-x} N, ZnO, CuCl, HgI₂ and PbI₂, where 0<x<1.

22. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 19, wherein the polymer matrix comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polymethyl methacrylate, polystyrene, polycarbonate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacetal, polyacrylate and a dendrimer.

23. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 19, wherein the semiconductor particles show exciton emission, and an energy relaxation time of the exciton is not less than 50 psec.

24. (Currently amended) An optical disk to which data are recorded by means of light irradiation, comprising:

a substrate; and

stacked films formed on the substrate, the films comprising a super-resolution film containing a polymer matrix and ~~semiconductor~~ particles each consisting of a semiconductor particle and including an organic group covalently bonded thereto, an optical recording layer to which data are recorded, and a reflective film reflecting light, the super-resolution film, the optical recording layer and the reflective film being provided in this order from a light incident side, and a modal diameter in particle size distribution of the semiconductor particles being not smaller than 1/4 and not larger than one times as large as a Bohr radius of an exciton of the semiconductor,

wherein the organic group covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle is semiconductor particles are directly in contact with the polymer matrix and wherein even in the case where a part of polymer molecules in the polymer matrix is covalently bonded to the semiconductor particle, a ratio of the polymer molecules bonded to the semiconductor particle is 1 mol % or less of the entire polymer molecules in the polymer matrix.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 24, wherein the semiconductor particle comprises at least one semiconductor material selected from the group consisting of CdS, CdSe, Cd_xSe_{1-x}, ZnSe, ZnS, Zn_xSe_{1-x}, Cd_xZn_{1-x} S, Cd_xZn_{1-x} Se, GaN, Ga_xIn_{1-x} N, ZnO, CuCl, HgI₂ and PbI₂, where 0<x<1.

27. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 24, wherein the polymer matrix comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polymethyl methacrylate, polystyrene, polycarbonate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyacetal, polyacrylate and a dendrimer.

28. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 24, wherein the semiconductor particles show exciton emission, and an energy relaxation time of the exciton is not less than 50 psec.